

# **Advancing Environmental Public Health Tracking: A Five Year Follow-Up Study**

Tracks 2006: Implementing The Tracking Network

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Becky Dawson, MPH

# About ASTHO

- 57 members – State and Territorial Health Officials
- Tracking Objectives:
  1. Identify models and resources
  2. Assess state capacity and needs
  3. Facilitate collaboration

# What's changed between 2000 and 2005?



# What's changed?

In 2000, a gallon of gas cost **\$1.46**





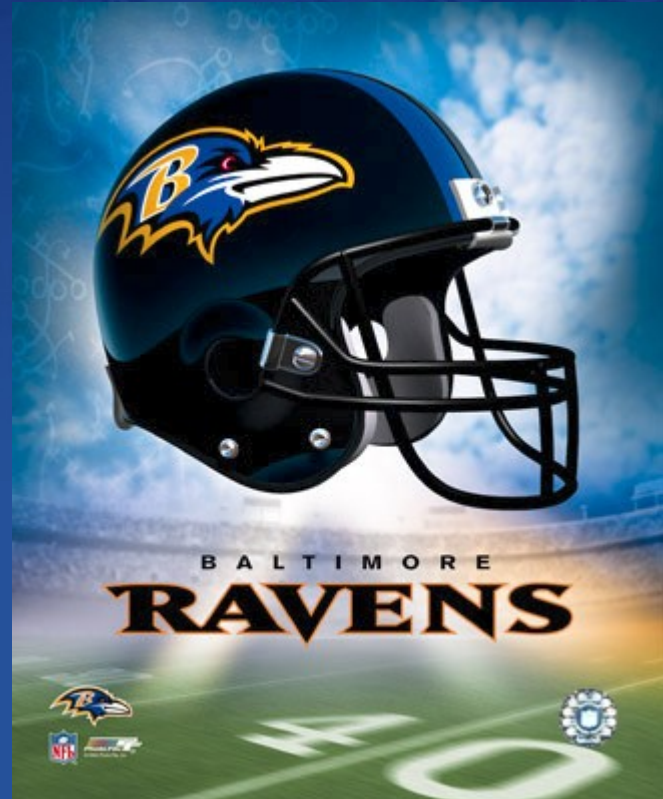
# What's changed?

In 2005, a gallon of gas cost **\$3.06**



# What's changed?

In 2000, the  
Baltimore Ravens  
won the Superbowl



# What's changed?

In 2005, the  
Pittsburgh Steelers  
won the Superbowl



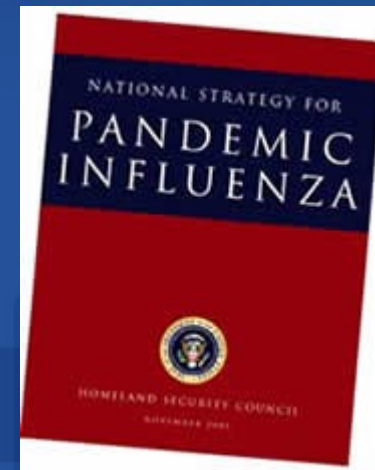


# What's changed in public health?



**Hurricanes and other  
natural disasters**

**Preparedness**





# What's changed in Environmental Public Health Tracking?

# What did we do?

Conducted phone  
interviews with  
48 states and 3 cities



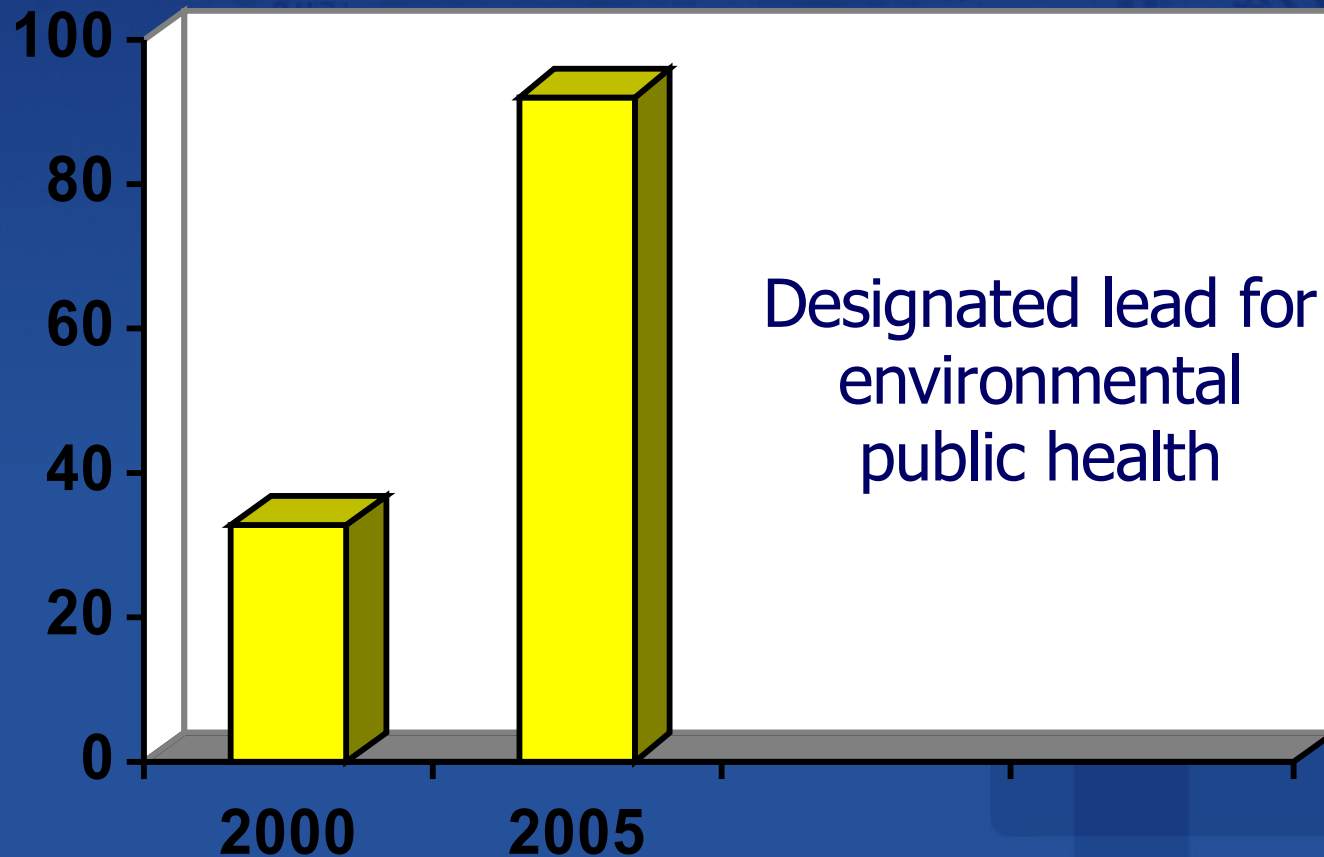
# Infrastructure and Capacity

States reporting adequate capacity to:

1. Collect needed data (88%)
2. Collect epi studies (84%)
3. Use GIS (80%)



# Environmental Public Health Leadership



# Environmental Public Health Leadership

- Designated lead for EH Surveillance:
  - in 71% of states (2005)
  - in 31% of states (2000)
- Differences between tracking grantees vs. non-grantees

# Data Collection and Use

	1999	2005
Developmental disabilities	16%	50%
Autoimmune diseases	8%	29%
Respiratory diseases	53%	71%
Cardiovascular disease	55%	71%



# Information Access and Usage Funded vs. Unfunded States

Increases in:

Collaborations (86% vs. 56%)

Communications (76% vs. 56%)

Coordination (81% vs. 48%)

# Information Access and Usage Funded vs. Unfunded States

Greatest needs:

Conducting statistical analysis (76% vs. 48%)

Upholding confidentiality rules (67% vs. 48%)

Accessing and using data (76% vs. 52%)

# Priorities

1. Funding (66% top priority)
2. Personnel
3. Training and expertise
4. Data sharing
5. Strong political will
6. Partnership development
7. Personnel recruitment



# Other topics covered...

- State legislation
- Programmatic innovations
  - Partnerships
  - Multi-group advisory councils
  - Blood lead, asbestos in schools, water and air quality monitoring
  - Biomonitoring
  - GIS

# Conclusions

- Measurable capacity improvements
- New and enhanced partnerships
- Challenges



# Next Steps

- Publication in AJPH
- Summary document
- Other documents





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# Questions?

Becky Dawson, MPH  
Director, Environmental Health Policy  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
1275 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 371-9090  
[bdawson@astho.org](mailto:bdawson@astho.org)